

Garrett County

Working to reduce violent crime in Maryland

Governor O'Malley's primary concern for the State of Maryland is to provide safety for its citizens. To date, Maryland has the lowest homicide and violent crime rates ever reported in the state. However, the real story can be told at the local level where the difficult work of addressing violent crime and supporting victims is done every day. Over the last 5 years, through unprecedented federal, state, and local law enforcement collaboration, Garrett County has seen a reduction in larceny/thefts (-2.0%).

"Garrett County's success in fighting crime shows the value of innovation and cooperation. Law enforcement agencies throughout the county have integrated their technology and information. As a result, they are able to provide much more effective and efficient police services to all county residents."

Sheriff Rob Corley

GARRETT COUNTY MAKES AN IMPACT:

Now more than ever before, crime reduction depends on federal, state, and local collaboration. Real-time information sharing, more effective crime analysis, new technology, the strategic targeting of violent offenders, and improved community resources all contributed to Garrett County's success.

Governor O'Malley's Office of Crime Control and Prevention is currently funding 13 grants in Garrett County totaling \$414,367. As a result, Garrett County has been able to implement successful crime fighting strategies such as:

- **Sentencing Alternatives** - The Garrett County Sheriff's Office Sentencing Alternatives program provides alternatives to incarceration and/or fines for non-violent offenders and meets many community organization's labor needs. Staff members coordinate work assignments and supervise non-violent offenders who have received community service as a pre-trial diversion or a post trial sanction. This program addresses the needs that are faced with the lack of volunteerism in our neighborhoods, municipalities, and our state forests.

Key Initiatives

- Heightened Supervision of Violent Offenders
- CompStat on Demand
- Crime Analysis
- Crime Mapping
- Sentencing Alternatives
- Domestic Violence Crisis & Support Services
- Rape Crisis Intervention Services
- Sex Offender Monitoring
- Rural Victim Services

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- **Domestic Violence Crisis & Support Services** – The Domestic Violence Sexual Assault Resource (DOVE) Center's Domestic Violence Crisis & Support Services program provides shelter, counseling, a hotline, information and referral, and advocacy and accompaniment to domestic violence victims. Abuser intervention programs are also provided for the offenders.

The DOVE Center also has a Rape Crisis Intervention Services program which provides education, support, crisis intervention, counseling, a hotline, shelter, advocacy, accompaniment, information, referral, and outreach services to sexual assault victims.

- **Rural Victim Services** - The Garrett County Sheriff's Office Rural Victim Support program serves sexual assault, domestic violence, and stalking victims in the county. The program's advocate/counselor partners with the DOVE Center and provides safety planning, support, referrals, and advocacy to these victims.
- **Sex Offender Monitoring** - The Garrett County Sheriff's Office Monitoring Support/Training Program tracks the compliance of local sex offenders who are required to register/re-register with the Maryland Sex Offender Registry. The program enhances public safety in the community by increasing sex offender verifications, which detects violations in a timely manner and puts offenders on notice that law enforcement monitors the veracity of the information that they provide.



"The Garrett County Sheriff's Office has shown itself to be responsive to the needs of its Western Maryland community. New technology allows the office to communicate efficiently with its partners in law enforcement, and its outreach activities bring it closer to the people the department serves. The result is a safer, more secure way of life for Garrett County residents."

Governor Martin O'Malley